Minutes of Council Meeting

Date: 7 June 2022

Present: A Pedder, Pro-Chancellor (in the Chair);
A Hope and C Brownlie, Pro-Chancellors;
Professor K Lamberts, President & Vice-Chancellor;
D Bagley, A Belton, Professor G Gee, Dr B Gilvary, G Greenup, Professor S Hartley, A Kay, Professor J Kirby, Professor K Layden, Professor M Vincent, A Wray

Secretary: Dr Tony Strike

In attendance: Professor G Valentine, J Jones, M McArthur, D Swinn, Professor D Forrest, A Carlile

Apologies: E Croxford, P Rodrigo, J Sutcliffe (Treasurer)

1. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

1.1 No conflicts were declared.

2. Officer Appointments

2.1 Council discussed an update on the work of the Appointing Committee, Chaired by Alison Hope, Pro-Chancellor, which Council had established to oversee the succession planning process for senior lay officers and its resulting recommendations to Council. This also followed Council’s approval of interim appointments to the roles of Chair of Council and Pro-Chancellor & Chair of Audit and Risk Committee at its February meeting.

2.2 Clarification was provided that ED&I had been priorities for the Appointing Committee and this had been made clear in the brief to the executive search agents, and it was disappointing that the candidate pool presented for long and short-listing had not delivered the desired diversity. Council agreed to actively pursue more diverse candidates in seeking future potential candidates for Council membership, noting that the previous round of recruitment for Class (3) members had delivered greater success in this regard. Further clarification was provided that regard had been had to the balance of skills and experience on Council in agreeing the person specifications. It was also reported that Council Nominations Committee had discussed these matters in detail at its recent meeting, on 6 June, to inform future succession planning and recruitment.

2.3 Council considered and approved the following recommendations.

(a) That Martin Temple be appointed as Class (3) member of Council and Chair of Council & Pro-Chancellor-designate, with effect from 1 August 2022 for up to one year to 31 July 2023, and as Chair of Council and Pro-Chancellor with effect from no later than 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2027, with the date of the transition from Adrian Belton to be agreed.

Information Classification: Public
(b) That Rob Memmott be appointed as Treasurer with effect from 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2026.

(c) That Adrian Stone be appointed as Class (3) member of the Council and Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Audit & Risk Assurance Committee-designate with effect from 1 August 2022 for up to one year to 31 July 2023 and as Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee with effect from no later than 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2027, with the date of the transition from Tony Wray to be agreed.

3. University Regulations

3.1 Council considered and approved a small number of amendments to Regulation II: The Council to clarify and make consistent the regulations pertaining to membership of the Council across all non-ex-officio categories. It was noted that the additional steps proposed would enable due diligence to be undertaken at an earlier stage and ensure both that elected members could serve in compliance with regulatory requirements, and increase the likelihood that terms could be served in full.